



Feature films, car commercials, motion and still photography all happen at Cabrillo National Monument. The expansive views are the perfect backdrop for commercial filming and photography. This FAQ sheet will give the basic information for commercial filming and photography at Cabrillo National Monument.

Application Information

Filming and Photography at Cabrillo National Monument requires a permit when the size of a film/photo group, the amount of equipment, or the activity of the film/photo group has the potential to damage the natural resources or impact the visitor experience.

Whether the final product of the film/photo group is commercial or non-commercial, student, freelance, or non-profit is irrelevant. Impact to the natural resource and/or the visitor experience is the criteria used to manage this activity.

Film/photography crews of three or more people should complete a film/photography application.

One or two people taking still photography using a hand-held video camera, or still or video camera with a tripod do not need a permit. The final product use, whether commercial or non-commercial, student, freelance, or non-profit is not a factor in requiring a permit. A permit is required when photography includes model(s), props, equipment, or any combination of these items, regardless of the number of people with the shoot.

Application Fee

There is a non-refundable fee of \$100 to process and review a request for filming or photography at Cabrillo National Monument. This fee must be paid at the time of the application.

This fee must be paid in cash, traveler's cheques, or money order for the exact amount. No personal or company checks will be accepted.

Application Process

Please complete the application form located on our website under Special Park Uses/Commercial Filming and Photography.

Answer each question in as much detail as necessary. If the question does not apply to you or your group, put N/A on the line for that question. Make your description of the activity as detailed as possible. If there is not enough room on the application, attach an outline, a concept, a storyboard, or a prospectus for the activity.

The application must be signed by the person who will be on-site for the filming activity.

You may email the completed application to cabr_events@nps.gov, or via fax at (619)226-6311. Please put "film/photography application" in the subject line of the email.

You may also mail the application to:
Cabrillo National Monument
1800 Cabrillo Memorial Drive
San Diego, CA 92106
ATTN: Special Use Permits

Student Film or Photography Projects	Film and Photography projects that are a part of an education curriculum or class must fill out an application. However, the application cost for student projects as part of an education curriculum class will be waived. The only cost will be the park entrance fee.	If the student does not fill out an application and obtain a valid permit, applicable fines and citations will be issued by a law enforcement ranger. The college program coordinator also will be contacted about the failure of the student to follow permit guidelines.
Permit Application and Review	<div>1) The time from receipt of the application to approval or denial of the permit will be no more than five business days.</div> <div>2) If an application is denied, a letter detailing the reasons will be mailed five business days after the receipt of the application.</div> <div>3) Application fees are non-refundable, even if a permit is denied.</div> <div>4) Applications that are denied will not be issued a permit and will receive a detailed written explanation for the denial.</div> <div>5) A permit will be issued once the application has been reviewed and approved.</div>	<div>6) Discussion of the permit and its conditions will vary on the complexity and lead time.</div> <div>7) The activity requested in the application will dictate the conditions placed on the permit to ensure the natural resource and the visitor experiences are not impacted.</div> <div>8) These conditions will vary with each individual permit. Individual permit fees will be assessed after the application is approved.</div>
Permit Fees	<div>Fees for the permit will depend on the complexity of the permit. Each request is reviewed on its own merits.</div> <div>A written estimate of fees will be given to the applicant at the time of approval of the application, which will occur within five business days after the receipt of application.</div>	Fees include but are not limited to: location fees, and cost recovery fees for monitoring, traffic control, and park access after/before hours. Please see the fee schedule on our website.
Timeline	<div>An Approximation of the permit process:</div> <div>1) Submit application and \$100 fee.</div> <div>2) Within five business days of receipt of application, the monument will provide a confirmed approval or denial of the application via email. A written explanation for denial and/or written estimate of fees for the approved application will be provided with the approval or denial letter.</div>	<div>3) Permit for an approved application will be issued five business days prior to the first day of the shoot.</div> <div>4) Tech scout(s), selection of dates, and timeline of event will occur based on the individual permits</div> <div>5) Close out of final paperwork will occur no later than seven business days after the final day of the shoot.</div>